

IN THE 'ABSTRACT:

*Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure as follows:*

~~A data output apparatus for writing and reading data on storage memories, especially such storage devices using storage media like an optical disk.~~

~~—— The apparatus efficiently reads data when writing and reading data in storage memories using storage media with a low writing and reading rate such as an optical disk.~~

~~—— The apparatus comprises: a first buffer 3 that retains the inputted data stream; writing means 4 for writing on the aforesaid recording medium the data stream held in the first buffer 3; second buffer 6 for holding the data stream to output to external device; reading means 7 for reading on to the second buffer 6 the data stream recorded on the recording medium; and predicting means 20 for predicting the duration W to consume the data stream held on the second buffer 7 on the basis of the duration needed for presentation of video information contained in the data stream held on the second buffer 6. That ensures that writing and reading are real time.~~

An method for simultaneously writing a data stream onto a recording medium with a low writing and reading rate such as an optical disk and outputting a data stream stored on the recording medium. In the method, an inputted data stream is retained by the first buffer. The stream held in the first buffer is written on the recording medium. The stream recorded on the recording medium is read onto the second buffer to output the stream to an external device. The writing and the reading are controlled based on the duration to consume the stream held on the second buffer, so that the writing and reading are real-time.